

State Department
Office of Foreign Missions

Annual Emergency Preparedness Seminar For Embassy Personnel

Disaster Preparedness: Are You Ready?

District of Columbia
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

February 7, 2014



Mission and Vision

Mission

The mission of the District of Columbia's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency is to support and coordinate homeland security and emergency management efforts, ensuring that the District of Columbia's all-hazards emergency operations are prepared to protect against, plan for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made hazards.

Vision

A safe and secure District of Columbia.



Guiding Principles

- **Residents First:**
 - All homeland security and emergency management efforts will be conducted in the best interest of all District residents and visitors
- **Risk-Based Approach:**
 - All preparedness efforts should be based on current and comprehensive risk-based planning
- **Capabilities-Based Planning:**
 - The District will develop plans, design training sessions, create exercises, and procure equipment based on a functional analysis of operational requirements that dictates priority preparedness capabilities
- **Regional Coordination:**
 - Collaboration with regional neighbors in the National Capital Region as well as with the federal government in order to identify shared requirements, responsibilities, and capabilities
- **Performance Assessment and Accountability:**
 - Ensure that homeland security preparedness efforts are constantly improving and resources are allocated in an efficient manner



Major Challenges Facing the District

PRIORITY THREATS

- **Terrorist Threats:**

- Improvised Explosive Devices
- Aircraft as a Weapon
- Hostage Taking/Assassination
- Chemical and/or Biological Agents
- Cyber Attack

- **Natural Disasters:**

- Hurricanes
- Winter storms
- Thunderstorms
- Extreme Heat/Cold
- Earthquakes
- Tornadoes

PROBABLE HAZARDS

- **Urban Issues:**

- Transportation Accidents
- Urban Crime
- Urban Fires
- Urban Flooding
- Utility Failures (e.g., power outages, water main breaks)

- **Other Concerns:**

- Demonstrations/Civil Disturbances
- Critical Resource Shortages
- Viruses and Epidemics



Regional and National Coordination

The unique relationship between the District Government, the Federal Government located within the District's jurisdiction, and the surrounding National Capitol Region's (NCR) local and state governments, all pose a coordination challenge, especially for evacuation efforts.

- National Response Framework
- District Response Plan
- Virginia EOP
- Maryland EOP

- Regional Plan
- County Plans



Maryland



District of Columbia



Virginia

Response During an Emergency

District Response Plan:

The **District Response Plan** is A ***One City Plan*** that communicates the authorities and roles and responsibilities in order to mobilize the District Government, the private sector, community volunteers and federal government in an emergency or disaster.



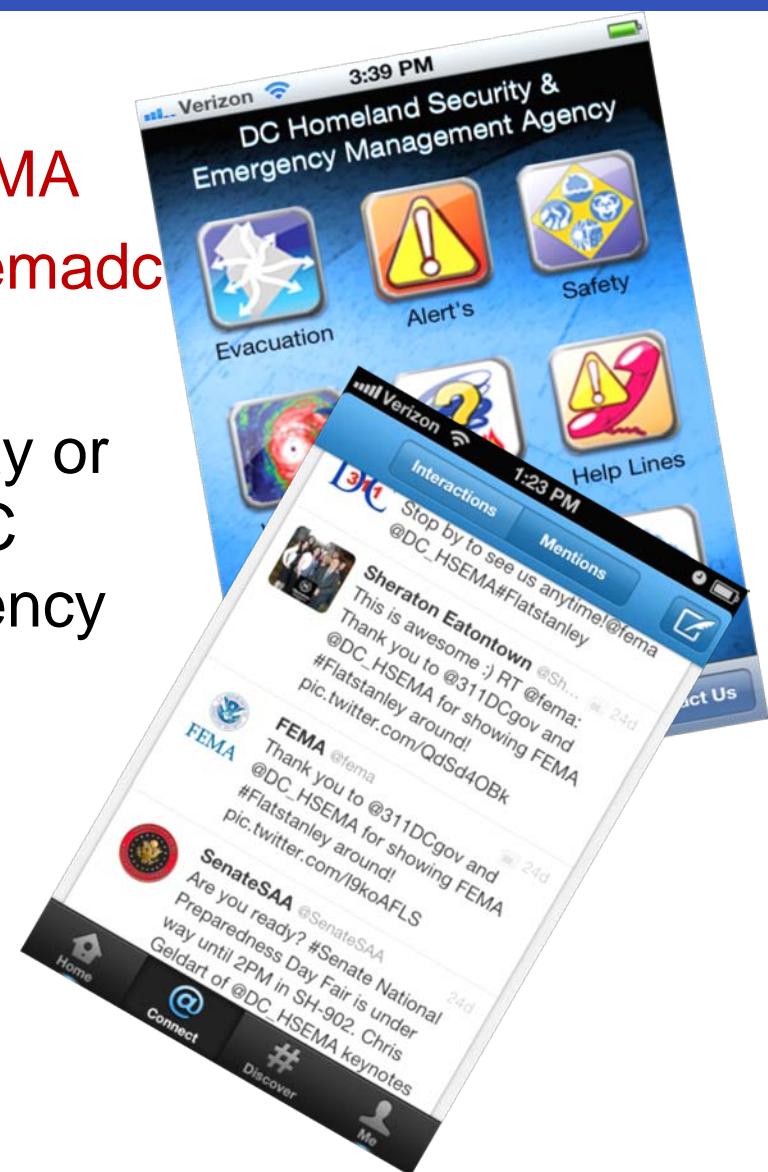
Individual, Family, and Community Preparedness

- Get Informed
- Make A Plan
- Make an Emergency Kit
- Be aware



Get Informed: Sign-up, Tweet, or Download

- **Website:** www.hsema.dc.gov
- **Twitter:** [@DC_HSEMA](http://www.twitter.com/DC_HSEMA)
- **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/hsemadc
- **Alert DC:** www.alert.dc.gov
- **Smartphone App:** Visit Google Play or the Apple Store to download the DC HSEMA Preparedness and Emergency Application



Individual and Family Plan

Emergency Go-kit Checklist:

- Three-day supply of water -- one gallon per person per day
- Three-day supply of non-perishable foods
- Battery or hand-crank radio or NOAA radio (include batteries)
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Establish a family communications plan- phone tree, social media
- Whistle for signaling for help
- Dust mask to filter contaminated air
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape for windows and doors if sheltering-in-place is needed
- Gloves, garbage (trash) bags and ties for personal sanitation
- Manual can opener
- Wrench or pliers to shut off utility valves if necessary
- Maps of the local area and neighboring states
- Homeowner's insurance and other important documents



Emergency Preparedness at Home

- Operating smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors
- Fire escape ladders and escape routes
- Fire drills with meeting and alternate meeting locations/assembly points
- Emergency go-kits
- Back-up generators
- Prepare an emergency go-kit for your pet(s)-food, identification, and records
- Awareness of child's school emergency plan
- Awareness of community or neighborhood plan
- Know about the Emergency Alert System (EAS)-listen for tests so that you'll know when it's an actual emergency
- Know what neighbors you will be able to help



DC Emergency Telephone Phone Numbers

- Police and Fire 911
- City Services and Non-Emergency 311
- Report Suspicious Activity (202) 727-9099
- HSEMA (202) 727-6161 24hr.
TTY: 711
- DC Animal Control (202) 576-6664 24hr.
- Poison Control Center (800) 222-1222
- Pepco Power Outage (877) 737-2662
- Washington Gas Emergency Line (703) 750-1400 or (800) 752-7520
- DC Water (202) 612-3400



Questions, Comments, Feedback?

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